FBIS DAILY REPORT

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JUNTA ANNOUNCES OWN EXCLUSION ZONE AGAINST UK

PY292301 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Military junta communique No 37]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- The military junta reports that in view of the receipt of an urgent message from the British authorities through the Swiss Embassy which reads: On announcing the imposition of a total exclusion zone around the Falklands, the Government of Her Majesty made it clear that this measure had been taken without prejudice to the right of the United Kingdom to take whatever additional measures might be needed in exercise of its right of legitimate defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter. Within the above context, the Government of Her Majesty now wants to make it clear that all Argentine ships, including merchant or fishing ships, that are presumably carrying out control or intelligence activities against the British forces in the South Atlantic will be considered hostile and are subject to being treated accordingly. In view of this, the military junta resolves:

1. As of today, all English ships, including merchant ships and fishing ships, navigating in Argentine waters within an area of 200 miles off the continental coast and off the coast of the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, will be considered hostile, and will therefore be treated accordingly.

2. As of today, any British military or civilian aircraft that flies within Argentine air space will be considered hostile and will be treated accordingly.

3. The above measures are taken without prejudice to any other additional measure that might be taken in exercise of the right of legitimate defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter.

UN ENVOY DELIVERS PROTEST NOTE ON UK BLOCKADE

PY291830 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1635 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (NA) -- Argentina has denounced before the UN Security Council a "new act of aggression by Great Britain" due to the announced air and naval blockade which will start tomorrow as of 0800 (1100 GMT), 200 miles around the Malvinas Islands.

The text of the document is the following:

"Mr President of the Security Council:

"Following the specific instructions of my government, I have the honor of addressing your excellency in order to bring to the attention of the Security Council that on 28 April the Swiss Embassy in Buenos Aires delivered the following communique issued by the British Government to the Argentine Government:

(Here follows transcription of the British document delivered by the Swiss Embassy)

"This new act of aggression carried out by the United Kingdom clearly violates article No 2, clauses No 3 and 4 of the UN Charter and Resolution No 502 (1982) of the Security Council.

"It is a clear illegitimate use of force which violates the express norms of international law and of Resolution No 3314 (XXIX) "Definition of Aggression" of the General Assembly.

"According to Article 51 of the Charter, the United Kingdom cannot invoke the right of legitimate defense, since its application is only feasible in order to repel an imminent and grave threat and because the measures to be adopted in that regard should be reasonable, limited to the need for protection and proportional to that imminent threat.

As a consequence, they cannot adduce the exercise of legitimate defense of the islands located 8,000 miles from British territory.

"These armed actions of the United Kingdom purely and simply represent unjustified an illegal acts of reprisal, with the objective of reestablishing a colonial occupation over a territory which juridically and historically speaking belongs to the Republic of Argentina. By no means can the United Kingdom adduce that it is its own territory. So far it had never done so and the United Nations itself has recognized those territories as colonies. [as received]

"The recovery of the territories of the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands started on 2 April and concluded without the shedding of any British blood. These bloodless actions were answered back with the sending of a war fleet to the zone, the implementation of a naval and air blockade of the islands, the decision to attack civilian and military vessels and aircraft (letter to the president of the Security Council dated 24 April 1982) and its bloody attack against South Georgia.

"These actions of the UK Government only reflect the statements by high-ranking authorities of that country already mentioned in my letter of 24 April (s/14998), in the sense that they would resort to force as a tool of their political and military action against the legitimate rights of the Republic of Argentina over its territories of the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands to safeguard the principle of territorial integrity, recognized by resolution No 1514 (XV) of the General Assembly.

"In requesting that this letter be distributed urgently as a document of the Security Council, I extend my greetings to your excellency.

"Eduardo A. Roca, ambassador, permanent representative."

NAVAL AUTHORITY ASSESSES UK FLEET'S PROBLEMS

PY291115 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 7 Apr 82 p 10

[Text] A high-ranking and reliable naval source explained yesterday that there is an international campaign intended to make Argentine defenses appear vulnerable in case of an armed conflict. The source added it is impossible for the British fleet now on its way to attack the continent, and "very, very difficult, virtually impossible, for it to carry out a successful operation in the Malvinas Islands."

The source, according to the DYN press agency, said that "cold figures could give the impression of an imbalance which would make confrontation with the 40-ship British fleet absurd, but this would be true only if the fleets confront each other at equal distances from their normal stations, which is not the case."

He added that "the logistical disadvantage" which the British fleet has in this case is of such magnitude that its chances for operating successfully in our waters, including the Malvinas area, are very remote."

"The problem becomes more serious when the fleet begins operations, for each supply ship it brings -- which should be many for 40 ships -- will have to be protected by at least two or three warships," he pointed out.

He said that the second problem the British have is air coverage. "We have a large aircraft carrier, the 'Argentina', smaller one called the 'Malvinas', and a third carrier, the '25 de Mayo', which we shall use if we want."

The source explained that the British aircraft carrier has 5 planes and 10 helicopters for antisubmarine warfare, although it may carry fewer helicopters and more planes. He added that their vertical take-off planes do not have the weapons or the operating capacity of those in the Argentine Navy, "not to mention the units belonging to the airforce." Our air supremacy is total, absolute," he said.

He explained that the British aircraft carriers are not attack ships but are designed for antisubmarine warfare, that is, they are for defense. If they should be attacked, these ships would need the protection of at least three to five destroyers or sloops each.

He added that the aircraft carriers are for antisubmarine warfare because, in accordance with NATO agreements, attack carriers are provided by the United States. He also said that the vertical take-off planes offered for sale to Argentina were rejected because they were not of adequate performance.

In view of the characteristics of those planes, which twist their turbines for take-off or landing, their field of action, speed and weaponry are limited.

He pointed out that reports about the autonomy of the British ships should be corrected because the same thing that happens to a car happens to a ship; the greater the speed, the more fuel it uses up. A car can refilled in any gas station, but a ship must be refueled by a tanker, a ship which has very weak defenses, is slow and has very limited mobility.

He stated that the South Atlantic is very different from the North, which causes other problems. "We do not underestimate the enemy," the source said. "British Navy men are good professionals and know all this as well as we do. We have even been educated following their naval tradition, but we want to discredit this adverse propaganda campaign which is far from truthful."

He said that British sailors know as well as we do that "the feasibility of an operation in the South Atlantic is very, very bad," and that "for an attack against land defenses, one needs to have three attackers for each defender, and in the case of a landing, this proportion should reach at least five to one."

"They should transport no less than 15,000 men, as long as our troops in the Malvinas are not increased; but if they were increased, then the entire Royal Navy would not be able to transport the necessary men," he stated.

He admitted that the British fleet might have a greater amount of weapons, "but the quality is exactly the same as ours. Their best weapon is the French Exocet missile, which we also have."

He expressed the opinion that even though the enemy's fleet "is powerful and can cause damage, in this situation it will not be able to direct any attack against the coast because, even if they land a small beach party, our army of more than 100,000 soldiers and with air support will wipe them out."

He explained that a landing effort would force the royal fleet to come within a minimum of 15,000 meters of the coastline in order to cover its men with artillery. "At that distance, they are completely vulnerable to the defensive artillery on land," he added.

With respect to the nuclear powered submarine, he said that it has "the exact same weapons as our submarines. Its advantage lies in its speed, which can equal the speed of a conventional ship." "However, its large size and reflecting surface make it easily detectable with sonar and radar equipment."

In addition, because of its great speed it has to navigate at great depths, which are nonexistent near Argentine shores, he added.

He concluded by saying that an attack against the Argentine mainland "is militarily impossible, unless they try some isolated attack against the coastline." "They will not be able to enter the River Plate because they will be easy prey for our planes and our land and sea defenses."

The naval source concluded: "We don't understimate them, but they could be the flop of the century."

NAVY SOURCE REVIEWS BRITISH ATTACK OPTIONS

PY300101 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2010 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (NA) -- A high-ranking source in the Navy has said that the British fleet will not be able to enforce an effective sea and air blockade against the Malvinas Islands, and that the possibilities of success of an attack and landing operation are slim. The source explained that Argentina's air superiority is a factor that the British fleet will have difficulty overcoming. Argentine Air Force and naval air power will be a difficult obstacle in the way of London's naval command plans to put a stranglehold on the islands.

As for the possibility of an assault by the British Royal Marines, the source indicated that, despite their high degree of professionalism and training, the marines would have to face adverse topographical and climatic conditions. Moreover, the attackers would be confronted with a well-known numerical superiority on the part of the Argentines, who have at their disposal a large amount of war materiel.

The British vessels could take positions to the east of the islands with relative ease, forming an arc from northwest to southeast; but it would be risky for those vessels to sail between the mainland and the archipelago, where they would be exposed to Argentine airstrikes. In the latter area more than in the former, Her Majesty's ships would have to maneuver in antisubmarine or antiaircraft formation. Both formations call for the main vessels to move at the center of a circle formed by the fastest or antisubmarine-armed vessels moving on the periphery. The concentration of vessels thus would make it difficult to throw a naval blockade around the whole archipelago.

The main risk for Argentine ships attempting to break the blockade would be posed by the British submarines sent to the zone. The source recalled that, after Great Britain declared a blockade around the islands 2 weeks ago, several Argentine ships managed to go from the mainland to the islands; but admitted that such trips will henceforth be more difficult.

The navy chief also explained that the British will find it even more difficult to enforce an air blockade. The fastest way to accomplish such a blockade would be to destroy the Puerto Argentino airfield, but the British fleet lacks the means to carry out such an operation easily. The surface-to-surface missiles of the British ships are not appropriate for that task. Their missiles are radar-guided, heat-seeking or infrared-guided, and none of these systems are suitable for targeting an airport landing strip because they are unable to distinguish the intended target from the surrounding terrain. Neither radar nor heat detector nor infrared sensor can pick out the concrete landing strip so bombardment with such missiles would be made by hit-and-miss shots, certainly with only relative effectiveness.

The British vessels could move in to shoot their cannons or missiles -- if the latter can be directly aimed -- but they would have to be within 10 kilometers of the coast, that is, within striking distance of Argentine aircraft.

Should the British command opt for launching the Harrier jump jets against the airport, they will have to confront Argentine interceptor planes. Should the Harriers dodge the interceptors, they still will have to face antiaircraft defenses deployed on the islands.

In the worst case for the Argentines, if the airstrip should be hit, special repair teams can put it back in commission in about 24 hours, unless there was extensive damage, and this is not likely to occur. Yet, even in the unrealistic hypothesis that the British planes could overcome all Argentine defenses, they will have to make frequent, repeated bombing runs to definitely knock out the airstrip. Such frequent strikes would be hampered by the casualties -- whatever their number -- inflicted on the attackers by the Argentine defense, and by problems of equipment maintenance and personnel fatigue.

Another way to impose the air blockade would be by intercepting Argentine planes which might try to reach the islands. However, the source said that an air bridge can still be maintained by alternating the takeoff point, thus forcing the British to a greater detection and interception effort for which they lack adequate means in sufficient quantity. Also the Argentine transport planes could fly in formation escorted by fighter planes that can engage the British Harriers in combat.

As to the possibility of an operationally significant landing on the islands, the navy chief considered it rather unlikely due to the relatively small number of Marines transported on the British ships. He said the Argentine air superiority would exact a high price in casualties and material damage in such an attempt. The blockading fleet in the South Atlantic has about 30 helicopters each able to carry as many as 15 men, that is, 450 men in total. Even if the British command decided to commit all those helicopters in one single strike, the number of attackers could not neutralize Argentine defenses. For such an operation, the vessels would have to approach the islands' coast to launch the helicopters against the islands, thus making them more liable to radar-detection and spotting by Argentine patrol planes. This detection would facilitate the concentration of defensive means in the anticipated zone of attack, and there will always be the air superiority factor on the Argentine side.

Should the attack be attempted by boats dispatched from the assault ships that are part of the fleet, the maximum number of men that could be committed to action would be 300, that is, 30 men in 10 boats.

Taking helicopters and boats together, the source estimated that the British could only send less than 800 men against the selected objective. Furthermore, it will be almost impossible for them to exploit the surprise factor.

Taking into account climate and topographic conditions, air protection and troop quality in an operation of this sort, it is estimated that the attackers must have manpower superiority of from 3-to-1 to 8-to-1 to hope to succeed. The British cannot attain that superiority unless the Argentines have made some gross miscalculation. And, the source noted, despite professionalism of the British Marines, the attackers' situation is at a disadvantage against alerted defense positions, so the attackers have to advance rapidly over unfamiliar terrain, known through briefings only, under the fire of well entrenched and well equipped defenders.

The hypothesis was raised that the British command may decide to attempt a nighttime landing to partly neutralize Argentine air superiority. The source said such a nighttime attempt implies great risks for the British, who would find it difficult to hold a small beachhead against the assault of the Argentine defenders.

The navy chief concluded by noting that the tightest British blockade could be easily withstood by the Argentine troops stationed on the islands, because they have enough supplies of all kinds to last more than 90 days. By contrast, the British fleet will be confronted with logistic problems that will rapidly mount as time wears on.

SOLDIERS IN MALVINAS HAVE PROVISIONS FOR MONTHS

PY300502 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0205 GMT 30 Apr 82

[By Juan Jose Marc]

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- The Argentine soldiers in the Malvinas Islands eat meat, fresh fruits, drink milk, and have a luxurious daily ration. My sojourn of 20 days with them in Puerto Argentino allows me to confirm this.

A logistics first lieutenant told me before my return to Buenos Aires, with an expression of concern in his face: I have just received 7 and 1/2 tons of frozen meat. Adding it to what the air force and navy have, and what we had before, there is no more room on the entire island to store it. We have overstocked everything. There is food here for several months. If the British do not allow the entrance of provisions for the Kelpers, we can even set up a logistics section to feed them also all the time they want.

Three ships and the countless airplanes that arrived in the island during the first 20 days following the recovery of the archipelago have supplied the troops with both necessities and luxury items.

One walks through encampments where entire battalions are lodged in groups of large tents, inside which there are other smaller tents.

In other zones, double-walled tents with an air space between prevents the temperature from at any time affecting their occupants, regardless of the change in climate.

S. GEORGIA RESISTERS HAVE SOVIET ROCKETS

PY291756 Paris AFP in Spanish 1327 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (AFP) -- For the first time in the history of Buenos Aires-Moscow relations, a military source has disclosed the existence of Soviet arms in the Argentine arsenal.

The military spokesman said yesterday in Rio Gallegos in the south of the country that the Argentine commandos who are resisting the British on San Pedro Island in the South Georgia archipelago, occupied by British troops last Sunday, are equipped with Soviet-made 122-MMBM 21 rockets.

Somewhere near Fortuna Bay, close to Port Leith, the command of the resistance groups is functioning, headed by a marine infantry captain commanding about 100 men trained for survival without any outside aid for at least 3 months and equipped with the most sophisticated and modern arms for this type of fighting, he said.

The source believed it to be perfectly possible for the commandos to cause serious damage to some British ship because of the capacity of the firearms they have.

CORRESPONDENTS 'MOBILIZED' TO COVER SOUTH

PY290910 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS 2303 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (NA) -- All the war correspondents from the different Argentine communications media -- which number about 50 -- have been "mobilized" by the armed forces joint staff and will be transferred to the southern part of the country to cover information related to the conflict with Great Britain.

The first contingent of foreign journalists today arrived in this capital from Comodoro Rivadavia. They had to leave that city by orders of the armed forces joint staff.

The mobilized war correspondents, it was reported, are journalists accredited to the commands of the army, navy and air force. The representatives of the news media will be incorporated in the cadres of the three armed forces as auxiliary officers to carry out their journalist activities. The correspondents, who have received appropriate military instruction and have taken part in war maneuvers will be transfered to several "determined" areas but no details of the areas were given.

One of the foreign reporters who returned from Comodoro Rivadavia labeled as "logical" the reasons given by Argentine military officials. Brazilian reporter Bruce Hameld talked to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS about the disposition, saying that "as a journalist I do not like it because I would like to be at the site of events, but I understand that this a 'logical' decision."

He said upon his arrival at Aeroparque Airport that "I spent a lot of time talking to people in Comodoro Rivadavia and in my opinion all the Argentines who live there are aware of what is happening and are ready for any type of even."

NEW COMMANDER FOR PUERTO BELGRANO NAVAL BASE

PY300150 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2259 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- The commander of naval operations, Vice Adm Juan Jose Lombardo, tomorrow will install Capt Cesar Trombetta as the new commander of the Puerto Belgrano Naval Base. The ceremony will take place on the parade ground of the naval command (sea fleet). Trombetta will replace the current interim commander, Capt Jorge Alfredo Mantovani.

OFFICIAL WARNS AGAINST HINDERING GRAIN SHIPMENTS

PY292217 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Excerpts] David Lacroze, under secretary for agriculture and livestock, today made special reference to the boycott against Argentine grains. Lacroze stated that those grains that are loaded in Argentine ports and which have been paid by the buyer are no longer Argentine grains, but they belong to the country that bought them. Therefore, any action taken against that ship or its cargo is not only an action against Argentina, but also against the buyer.

CHUBUT GOVERNOR ON PRO-BRITISH CAMPAIGN, SABOTAGE

PY300152 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2015 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- Chubut Governor Rear Adm (ret) Niceto Echauri Ayerra, whose opinion on aspects of naval strategy has been repeatedly requested by the press, was asked here today about alarmist reports broadcast about the existence of a presumed state of panic amid the population of Comodoro Rivadavia. The governor said that such reports are aired by sources will known to us and which have accepted British pounds to put at the disposal of the British psychological campaign an entire network of ham radio stations. Governor Ayerra also warned about the possibility of pro-British sabotage being attempted in this zone, and asked the people to continue with their normal activities and to have confidence in the men who are in command of the operations.

MILITARY JUNTA IMPOSES PRESS CENSORSHIP

PY300029 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2349 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- The chief of the joint staff released a communique this afternoon that states textually:

"In view of the current situation with Great Britain and considering: That it is necessary to adopt measures referring to national security, the military junta resolves: Art 1. That all reports and news items from abroad, no matter where they come from and what vehicle is used, and all information related to aspects regarding the development of the military and national security operations are now subject to the control of the joint staff prior to their dissemination by the media, whether they be oral, written or televised reports.

"Art 2. That the joint staff will exercise the control over information ordered in the previous article and it will implement the means and adopt adequate measures in order to be able to appropriately carry out its task.

"Art. 3. That the directors and editors of the media will be responsible, directly and personally, for each and every violation of what has been ordered in Article 1 and of any other measure implemented by the joint chiefs of staff.

"Art 4. That each and every violation of what is ordered in this resolution will be punished with the closing down of the enterprise published the item and with the arrest of the responsible director or editor and they will be placed at the disposal of the executive branch for an undetermined period of time, without prejudice to further civil of criminal proceedings which may be appropriate.

"Art 5. Copy to the joint chiefs of staff; so be it ordered."

[Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 0228 GMT on 30 April files the following item: "Attention editors: Delete from the first paragraph of our NA 139, (control), the words 'from abroad,'. Thus the paragraph will be phrased in the following way: 'All reports and all news items related to military and national security operations are subject to the control of the joint chiefs of staff before they can be disseminated by the media.' The rest of the item suffers no change. Thank you."

[TELAM has not been observed sending a correction to the above item.]

SOURCE REVEALS U.S. PEACE PROPOSAL DETAILS

PY290339 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0243 GMT 28 Apr 82

[By NA correspondent T. Jofre]

[Text] Washington, 28 Apr (NA) -- The U.S. proposal that [words indistinct] the Argentine Government provides for the establishment of a tripartite civilian administration on the Malvinas together with Great Britain and the United States.

According to what was learned from a non-Argentine diplomatic source, the proposal sets deadlines for the partial and progressive withdrawal of the Argentine troops from the islands and the moving away of units the UK fleet.

The document drafted in Washington provides [words indistinct] for the discussion of preset subjects, but no concrete date is set for the transfer of sovereignty.

The source, who claimed to have had access to the document and who asked not to be identified, made a general outline of the document which is being analyzed by Argentina, Great Britain and the United States.

The main points of the proposal reportedly are the following: a civilian tripartite administration exercised by Argentina, Great Britain and the United States.

The initiative does not set a specific date for the transfer of sovereignty.

The immediate British acknowledgement of the Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas is not guarranteed, although this would be contemplated in a medium term of not more than 5 years, according to the provisions of the document.

The proposal allegedly sets dealines for the holding of meetings to discuss present subjects.

Deadlines and instructions are given for the withdrawal of the Argentina troops that are stationed on the islands, as well as for moving away of the UK fleet that is blockading them.

It is suggested that (at) a specified date (which was not given by the source) a specific number of the Argentine forces will have to be withdrawn and the UK fleet will have to move a specific number of miles away from the archipelago.

This operation will be carried out (?in a) gradual fashion until a demilitarization of the area in conflict is achieved.

The proposal also provides that the interest and the opinions of the Kelpers will be observed and honored during the negotiation process.

The diplomat who was consulted noted that the word "civilian" that is included in the chapter of the tripartite administration is significant, for it would imply the immediate withdrawal of the present Argentine governor, Mario Menendez.

The source termed the proposal "reasonable" for it contemplates the basic interests of Great Britain and Argentina.

The source stated that Great Britain would thus fulfill its aspiration of hoisting again its flag on the islands as well as its commitment with the Kelpers that no solutions would be adopted without their consent.

Similarly, Argentina would within a medium term have the fulfillment of its aspiration of gaining sovereignty over the archipelago guaranteed, while 27 days ago this was not so.

It was also conceded that the major difficulties reportedly stem from the fact that Argentina does not see its aspiration fulfilled of exercising the sovereignty over the archipelago in an absolute and exclusive fashion.

TELAM SAYS U.S. PREPARING NOTE SUPPORTING UK

PY300615 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0445 GMT 30 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Washington, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- The U.S. Government is preparing a declaration in which it opts for the British position in the crisis over the Malvinas in view of its inability to achieve a peaceful solution. Although it was admitted that the declaration is under preparation, it was impossible to learn whether there is a decision to publish it immediately.

It was learned, however, that the decision to issue the declaration was made in the wake of the reception by the U.S. State Department of the Argentine answer to the latest proposal made by General Haig to solve the problem peacefully.

HERALD APPLAUDS U.S. MEDIATION EFFORTS

PY280744 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 27 Apr 82 p 10

[Editorial: "U.S. Neutrality Holds"]

[Text] Many of those who were yesterday discussing the galloping escalation of violence in the South Atlantic conflict between Argentina and Britain -- and that was just about everybody in the country -- were wondering as a sombre afterhought just what the United States would do now that its major ally, Britain, had decided to roll in with guns blazing instead of holding off to see if there were some way to make the mediation effort, launched by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, work and thus avoid further bloodshed and additional threats to Western security. Early in the day many people were pondering whether the Ronald Reagan administration would be able to withstand apparently increasing pressure from London, from a large sector of the U.S. population and from major organs of the North American press to forget all of this dillydallying with peace talks and to present an overt demonstration of solidarity with Britain in its efforts to hang on to one of the last vestiges of its colonial past. To Mr Reagan's everlasting credit (even if it is apt to harm him politically at home and abroad) he and his administration have shown their reluctance to give up on peace by giving in to the red-eyed enthusiasm being shown toward international violence.

Late yesterday, a diplomatic source was quoted as saying that General Haig had indicated to Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez that he was prepared if asked to do so to fly to Buenos Aires to present the ruling military junta with a proposal drafted by President Reagan to seek a peaceful end to the Malvinas crisis. The meeting between General Haig and Mr Costa Mendez lasted about ten minutes and took place, significantly, just after the U.S. secretary of state had made a speech to the Organization of American States -- which was meeting on the Islands issue in Washington -- in which he reiterated, despite the British attack on the South Georgias over the weekend, the United States' willingness to continue to try to help the two sides in the conflict come to some sort of agreement. The word of Mr Reagan's proposal was bound to come as a relief -- no matter how slight -- to those who had feared that all chances for mediation had died with the invasion of the South Georgias by British troops over the weekend, and those who felt that decisive military action on the part of Britain might force Washington into the position of having to take a side.

It is very strange to see General Haig and Mr Reagan, who have often been typecast in international politics as diehard hawks whose reputations for trigger-happiness have made Western Europe shake a bit in its boots on more than one occasion, struggling so hard to keep their footing on a tightrope of neutrality which is whipping back and forth dangerously in the gale-force winds of war. A strange sight it certainly is, but a welcome one among those who fully understand the possible implications of a war between two Western nations in the South Atlantic: Namely, the division of Western defences, the alienation of much of Latin America, the loss of Argentina as a future strategic U.S. ally, the internationalization of the dispute and the not at all unlikely start of a worldwide confrontation. Just what Washington will be able to achieve through diplomacy at this difficult point is highly unpredictable, but its attempt to seek peace is, nonetheless, praiseworthy.

BRITAIN REJECTS UNSC PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL

PY300640 Buenos Aires International Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Apr 82

[Text] Great Britain last night rejected as unacceptable a proposal which had been made a few hours before by the president of the United Nations Security Council, Kamanda Wa Kamanda of Zaire, to the governments of Buenos Aires and London urging them to abide by the provisions of resolution No 502 of that international body. In this respect, the British ambassador, Sir Anthony Parsons, said that the proposal suggested in way or another that Britain was not complying with Resolution 502, and he added that the same resolution placed victim and aggressor on the same level.

In a resolution issued by the United Nations Security Council on 3 April last -- that is, the day after the recovery of the Malvinas by Argentina -- it called for an immediate cessation of hostilities, the withdrawal of the Argentine troops from the Malvinas and the initiation of diplomatic talks in order to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

The president of the UN Security Council, Mr Kamanda, made his appeal -- which was of a personal nature -- after receiving the text of the resolution approved by the OAS in the early hours of Wednesday morning. That resolution called for a cessation of hostilities on the part of Great Britain and it recognized Argentine sovereign rights over the disputed South Atlantic islands.

In answer to a summons from Kamanda, British Ambassador Parsons said: "As far as we British are concerned, there is an aggressor which has taken possession of our territory and there is a victim, and we cannot accept that we should be placed on the same level as the aggressor."

INTERIOR MINISTER SAYS THERE ARE STILL HOPES

PY291513 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1305 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- Gen Alfredo Oscar Saint Jean, interior minister and acting foreign minister, today asserted that we have not reached a point of no return because, if England shows the slightest good will, the problem over the Malvinas Islands can be solved peacefully.

He added that our country has always been more than prudent and patient, not only throughout the 150 years of negotiations, but particularly throughout the crisis.

During statements to Radio Mitre, General Saint Jean was asked whether the two countries had already reached a point of no return to which he stated: "Argentina, at least, has not."

Regarding the situation in South Georgia, he stated that the Argentine soldiers who are fighting there will resist as long as they have food and ammunitions because, logically, it will be impossible to resupply them unless very special circumstances which may change the current situation take place.

He added that the infantry marines who are fighting on South Georgia are very well trained and deserve the respect of their comrades in arms. He pointed out that "we are aware of their training, their equipment, their courage and they will probably continue to fight as long as possible."

Regarding Reagan's proposal to solve the Anglo-Argentine conflict he reiterated that it has not been rejected and that it has several points which could be useful.

He continued: "We are keeping open the possibility of continuing negotiations, even based on that proposal or an improvement or considering some previous elements, but by no means can we accept a proposal which does not include the recognition of our sovereignty as a special condition.

Regarding the death of Noncommissioned Officer Felix Oscar Artuso on South Georgia, General Saint Jean stated that he has requested further information on this issue.

Regarding the British psychological campaign, he stated that we must be prepared for that and must also be alert. In this regard he pointed out that the world's information mechanism is practically centered on the great powers and that in this case England is the center and the one who monopolizes all the information. He warned that if we do not supply a more or less permanent flow of information, we are losing this psychological war somewhat. He insisted that it is always necessary to continue informing, to maintain the media supplied, probably not necessarily with information of a bellicose nature but definitely with all the diplomatic and political developments of this episode.

He stated that even in a state of war there will be no critical situations since Argentina is a country which produces everything necessary for an emergency. He pointed out that even if our country should have to momentarily isolate itself from its supply sources of some products, we could survive making the type of efforts required at times of war.

He pointed out that Argentina is facing the United States with the best intentions to overcome the conflict caused by Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands.

The interior minister ended by stating that the best way to help our soldiers is for everyone to make the best effort in their daily chores and to do his best.

CHILEANS REPORTEDLY INTERFERING WITH RADIO BAND

PY290242 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2055 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] San Carlos de Bariloche, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Radio hams in this city have denounced interference in the operation of the so-called emergency network by Chilean radio hams who thus are violating, on the frequency of 14.750 kHz, international code provisions. Argentine ham radios reported that the Chileans shout insults, sing the English anthem and mock Argentine national symbols.

As soon as the result of the balloting at the OAS meeting, through which almost all Latin America supported Argentina, was known this morning, the Chilean Radio Nacional and Radio Agricultura, minimizing the value of the OAS resolution, kept saying that Chile's abstention simply reflected the fact that Argentina is an aggressor country and in no way could its sovereignty over British territories be recognized.

But much more serious is the action by Chilean hams who interfered with the "emergency band" that is precisely reserved for emergency use and is protected by international laws which the Chileans seem or want to ignore. Since early morning, Chilean radio stations have exclusively been broadcasting dispatches from London and other European countries which are totally unfavorable to our country.

JUDGE CONFIRMS TRIAL OF PRESUMED CHILEAN SPY

PY291134 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0127 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] San Juan, 28 Apr (NA) -- Federal Judge Mario Gerarduzzi confirmed here today that he has been hearing the case of Luis Armando Borquez Krumbach, a Chilean citizen, who was arrested about a month ago at Villa Reynolds, San Luis, and who is facing charges of espionage. Judge Gerarduzzi declined to give any further information by noting that the investigative stage of a trial is secret.

Borquez Krumbach may have admitted, however, that he is a member of the Chilean Air Force intelligence service and of the Chilean National Intelligence Center. Among Borquez Krumbach's personal effects there was reportedly a Chilean identification card issued to Victor Guillermo Soto Hood, the name under which Borquez may have worked in the country. It was also said that the defendant may have admitted that it was his mission in Argentina to take pictures of the San Juan and Villa Reynolds Airports and of missile emplacements and underground refuges.

CHILEAN JOURNALISTS EXPELLED FROM RIO GALLEGOS

PY291304 Paris AFP in Spanish 0158 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Punta Arenas, Chile, 28 Apr (AFP) -- A Chilean journalist and a cameraman of the television station of this southern city were arrested and expelled from the Argentine city of Rio Gallegos after being charged with filming places considered to be strategic, it was reported here tonight. Journalist Gazik Jalil said in Punta Arenas, 2,500 km south of Santiago, that negotiations conducted by the Chilean consul in Rio Gallegos, Eugenio Mujica, were instrumental in clarifying their status as reporters, after undergoing intensive questioning by military intelligence personnel.

Jalil, who is a corresondent of several press organizations of Santiago, said that a high-ranking officer gave credence to their contention that they had not filmed any strategic place and that they had not been spying. He noted, however, that they were compelled to immediately leave Rio Gallegos, which is located 400 km from the Malvinas Islands.

FRIENDSHIP TREATY DISCUSSIONS WITH CHILE REPORTED

PY281446 Paris AFP in Spanish 1434 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Vatican City, 28 Apr (AFP) -- Argentina and Chile today discussed for the first time the signing of a lasting friendship treaty with clauses providing for the peaceful solution of controversies, it was learned here from reliable sources. Delegates from both countries before the papal mediation were received today by Cardinal Antonio Samore, the pope's personal delegate.

The joint meeting held today was a response to the suggestion made by Pope John Paul II in his speech of last Friday, a report from the Chilean diplomatic mission said.

FORMER ECONOMY MINISTER VISITS USSR, FRANCE

PY281458 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 27 Apr 82 p 9

[Text] Former Economy Minister Jose A. Martinez de Hoz and his wife, Elviar Bullrich, were in Leningrad and Moscow a few days ago. In financial circles of this capital it was speculated that Martinez de Hoz may have gone abroad to intercede on behalf of the Argentine Government before several countries, especially EEC member-countries, with regard to the economic measures they had imposed against Argentine. Through a telephone call to Europe, LA NACION was able to learn last night that the former economy minister was then in Paris, that he will stay there 2 more days and then will go to the United States. Reliable sources last night told LA NACION that Martinez de Hoz had originally traveled to Budapest to attend a meeting of economists. Upon the conclusion of this meeting and, since he had about a week free, he decided to travel -- absolutely on his own -- to the Soviet Union.

CANADIAN JOURNALISTS CHARGED WITH ESPIONAGE

PY300359 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2312 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- The four Canadian television correspondents who had been arrested and indicted for alleged espionage activities in Comodoro Rivadavia have to remain within V Corps jurisdiction, while all other foreign journalists have departed. All foreign correspondents left this city shortly before noon today, by order of the Army V Corps. According to information provided this afternoon by the chief of civil affairs of the Army V Corps Command, the Canadian correspondents stayed behind due to a resolution dictated by the federal judge of Comodoro Rivadavia, Carlos Alberto Saez Almagro.

The judge's resolution states that pursuant to the case against (Lemuel) Serrel Hillman, David Robert Wilson, John Roger Axelson and Horacio Ricardo Rivarola for violation of Article 24 of the Penal Code, the authorities are informed that those foreign journalists and the Argentine interpreter involved must not leave this city until the proceedings against them are concluded. Judge Almagro also communicated to the authorities that the case is under advisement by the district attorney for review under provisions of Article 441 of the Criminal Proceedings Code.

PATAGONIA RADIOS TO BROADCAST FOR 24 HOURS

PY291808 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1542 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- The Federal Radio Broadcasting Committee has ordered that as of 0000 today, 21 radio stations in the Patagonia region will broadcast uninterruptedly for 24 hours. The clauses included in the measure state that the present situation with Great Britain calls for the adoption of exceptional measures in keeping with national security needs. The measure adds that therefore, "at present it is essential to order the uninterrupted broadcast of those radio stations located in those areas that are the scene of military operations."

It is noted that the measure, which has been adopted in compliance with strict orders issued by the presidency, involves those radio stations in the Chubut, Neuquen, Rio Negro and Santa Cruz provinces and those in the Tierra Del Fuego national territory. The measure, which is subject to the approval of the executive branch, will be in force until further notice or unless the defense command states otherwise.

PRESIDENT DOUBTS BRITAIN WILL ATTACK ARGENTINA

PY300508 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 29 Apr 82 p 14

[Excerpts] Porto Alegre -- "Brazil cannot really believe two friendly countries such as Great Britain and Argentina can go to war," President Figueiredo said here on a political visit yesterday. After being informed of approval of the Brazilian proposal at the OAS meeting, Figueiredo, in a press interview, expressed hope that good sense will prevail between the two countries involved and refused to admit that hostilities may lead to an allout fight in the Falklands (Malvinas).

Stating that "Brazil is a peaceful and pacifist country, friendly both to Great Britain and Argentina," President Figueiredo sidestepped a question of whether the Brazilian Government will support Buenos Aires if the conflict over the Falklands should evolve into a state of war. The president said: "I do not believe it. I do not speculate on the basis of hypotheses." The president sent a message to Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro in Washington, expressing his hope that Argentina and Great Britain "listen to the voice of the American nations, which, as always, wish well for both British and Argentine citizens."

A journalist asked: "are we going to remain at peace, Mr President?" Figueiredo answered that we should be because he believes in the good sense of men. He added that "as long as there is a possibility for a peaceful solution, Brazil will be there because it absolutely does not admit that two friendly countries such as Great Britain and Argentina could go to war."

President Figueiredo agreed with the observation that the present situation in the conflict leads to the natural conclusion that Great Britain may in the next few hours carry out its promise to attack. The president reflected: "We are all afraid of that, but I trust the Englishmen's good sense; they think carefully, and I believe in their good sense. May God enlighten those peoples."

FOREIGN MINISTER SATISFIED WITH OAS RESOLUTION

PY300624 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0510 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] Brasilia, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, who returned from Washington, where he attended the OAS meeting to discuss the British aggression in the Malvinas Islands, stated tonight that the best thing now is to wait for the outcome of events, because despite the not-very-optimistic reports, the doors for a peaceful solution have not yet been closed.

Saraiva Guerreiro arrived at the Brasilia airport and expressed satisfaction at the resolution approved at the foreign ministers meeting which, upon recognizing Argentine sovereignty over the islands, urged the two parties to begin a truce in an effort to find a peaceful solution.

The foreign minister stated that it is not correct to implement only in part Resolution 502 of the UN Security Council, making reference to the fact that the British fleet is threatening to attack the Malvinas Islands beginning tomorrow at 0800.

Resolution 502 is not correct when applied partially because it must be respected as a whole, the Brazilian minister stated.

LA PRENSA COMMENTS ON GOVERNMENT CONTRADICTIONS

PA300202 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 Apr 82 p 1

["As of Today" column]

[Text] It is becoming increasingly difficult to find out where power lies and who really rules here in Panama. A short time ago we said that the government deliberately insists on acting mysteriously, while engaging in a grotesque game of riddles. One day, the National Guard commander in chief announces that cabinet changes are imminent. Two days later, the president says that there will be no changes. A few days later, the presidency of the republic issues a list of new ministers and heads of autonomous institutions. Not long ago, the foreign minister threatened to send our armed forces to help the Argentines recover the Malvinas. The day before yesterday, the commander publicly and categorically denied this: "We have an exact number of troops at the orders of our people. They are not to fight in other latitudes and conflicts." This is an even more delicate case, because it concerns our international relations. Other countries must be baffled over these contradictory declarations and over conduct that varies from one day to the next and from one official to another. If the regime has no self-respect and does not take itself seriously, how can it expecc the Panamanian citizens and the foreign governments to respect it or take it seriously?

NICARAGUAN GOLD SHIPPED FROM FREE ZONE TO CUBA

PA300154 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] A reliable source in Colon's free zone has revealed the existence of a golden bridge between Panama and Managua over which Nicaraguan gold is sent to Havana. The bridge is made up of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, whose official, Mr Nesto Caldera conducts the transfer operation through the Towerbank Overseas Inc. branch in Panama. The bank is managed here by the Kardonski family and is located in Colon's free zone. Mr Pedro Cardenas, director and precious metals of the National Bank of Cuba, is on the receiving end in Havana. When approached approached about this, Nicaraguan ambassador in Panama, His Excellency Francisco "Pancho" Quinonez Reyes, explained that this is a very normal transaction between the Central Bank of Nicargaua and the Towerbank Overseas Inc. The deal is closed once the latter acquires the Nicaraguan gold.

According to the diplomat, this gold sale transaction involving the Towerbank has been conducted for a couple of years now and is also being conducted with Canada. According to the charge made to this paper, however, the Central Bank of Cuba markets precious metals (gold and silver) in Canada thorugh the same bank, the Towerbank Overseas Inc., whose headquarters are in Toronto. For this reason, the gold and silver are shipped to Cuba by two routes every month: Canada-Havana and Panama-Havana. The amounts involved are: between 50 and 80 kg of fine gold in bars per month, 30 kg of recovered gold per month and 3 tons of recovered silver per month.

'EXPEDITIOUS' TRANSIT OF UK SHIPS QUESTIONED

PA291458 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Station commentary read by Moyo Icaza]

[Text] Unfortunately, we do not have a smile for you today, because this is serious business. Approximately 3 weeks ago, 2 British-flag auxiliary naval vessels transited the canal en route to the Malvinas Islands. There would be nothing unseemly in this if it were not for the fact that the Canal Commission Administration arbitrarily, unadvisely and challengingly extended expeditious transit to those vessels. Although the Neurality Treaty permits free transit for warships, regardless of nationaliy or cargo, it is also true that expeditious transmit is reserved reserved solely and exclusively for Panamanian and U.S. warships, as stipulated in Article 6 of the Neurality Treaty. The fact that those British ships were given different treatment seriously jeopardizes Panamanian foreign policy and constitutes a violation of the letter of the Neutrality Treaty, which is intolerable in every sense of the word and contrary to the Panamanian position on the Malvinas Case. Panama should at the very least make a vigorous protest of this flagrant violation.

COSTA RICA

PASTORA PREDICTS CIVIL WAR IN NICARAGUA SOON

PA300413 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0205 GMT 30 Apr 82

[Text] San Jose, 29 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora, "Commander Cero" of the Nicaraguan revolution, predicted in San Jose today that there will soon be a civil war in Nicaragua. Regarding the possibility that he will organize a government in exile, as the Nicaraguan rulers have charged, Pastora said that it is a recourse used by the Sandinist directorate since it cannot reply to the political and moral criticism that he recently expressed against it.

Pastora's remarks were sent to ACAN-EFE today in a recorded cassette after the news agency received a telephone call announcing it. "Commander Cero" reiterated his charge that the Nicaraguan rulers "have adopted Marxism-Leninism not as a philosophy but as a way to perpetuate themselves in power."

"I am neither forming a government in exile, nor do I plan to liberate a small territory," Pastora said, adding that he plans to liberate the whole country "so that the Nicaraguans can choose their own government without foreign interference."

"Nor is it true," he added, "that I am planning to wage a war of liberation. What is coming is a civil war between pseudorevolutionaries such as the nine commanders and the real revolutionaries of the Nicaraguan people." Pastora denied that he met with Nicaraguan political leaders in San Jose today.

"Commander Cero," who is annoyed about the campaign being carried out against him by the members of the FSLN National Directorate, threatened to disclose "very serious things."

"If they do not respond to the political summons I have issued to them and continue to resort to lies, I will have to tell the Nicaraguan people the conditions which surrounded the death of Carlos Fonesca Amador. "I will tell the people," Pastora added, "who was really the one who killed Carlos Fonesca Amador, because the Somozist National Guard was an instrument used by one of those commanders in the directorate to kill Carlos Fonesca."

EL SALVADOR

ASSEMBLY ELECTS MAGANA INTERIM PRESIDENT

PA300126 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Relay of Constituent Assembly session -- live]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified speaker] Deputy Dr [Rafael] Moran Castaneda has the floor.

[Moran] Mr President, companeros members of the Constituent Assembly: For reasons of order I would like us to discuss the first point on the agenda. The second motion should be discussed later. Otherwise, we would be discussing two different points. We should first discuss the proposal about the candidacy for the presidency of the republic. After this point has been approved, the second proposal will be brought forth, concerning the amendment of decree No 3 so it establishes the designation of three vice presidents, should be debated. For reasons of order, Mr President, I would like the proposal on the interim president to be discussed first. Thank you very much.

[Unidentified speaker] Mrs Carmencita Canas de Lasso has the floor.

[Canas de Lasso] Mr President, I agree with Dr Moran Castaneda's view that this should be done correctly. I would also like to say that numerial 1 of decree 3, establishes that there will be one president and one vice president. With your motion, there would be three vice presidents. This, of course, would necessitate an amendment of the decree. In order for there not to be other amendments that would trample underfoot what we have already established here, I formally suggest that we issue decree No 4 specifically referring to consensus if, as Trejos has said, such a consensus is reached with regard to the issue of the three vice presidents. That is my formal motion. [applause]

[Unidentified speaker] if there is no other proposal, we will subject to the plenum... [leaves sentence unfinished] Deputy Rene Barrios has the floor.

[Barrios] Mr President, since we are on the point dealing with proposals for candidates for interim president of the republic, the feeling of all the deputies of our party, the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, and of all our rank and file, is that we want to propose a candidate for interim president of the republic [applause, shouts] whom we feel [applause] meets all the requirements inherent in our aspirations, our struggle and our response to the sovereign Salvadoran people. He is none other than our great companero, Don Hugo Barrera. [applause, shouts] Therefore, Mr President, we formally propose Mr Barrera in behalf of all the ARENA deputies. [applause]

[Unidentified speaker] We will not go back to the issue of the two initial proposals. We submit to the plenum the motion introduced by Dr Moran Castaneda to the effect that, in accordance with the agenda, we should first vote to elect the president of the republic and later debate the amendment of decree No 3. Those in favor electing the president of the republic immediately, raise your hand. [There is a pause here, during which murmuring can be heard in the room] We have 58 votes. The motion is approved. [applause]

We have two proposals for the election of the president of the republic. Correction; the motion was approved by 57 votes. We have two candidates for president of the republic. The voting will be by an open rollcall vote, in accordance with article 42 of this assembly's internal regulations. The secretary will now call the roll to see which of you endorse the candidacy of Dr Alvaro Magana and which endorse that of Don Hugo Barrera.

[Unidentified voice] Result of the voting for president of the republic:

Dr Alvaro Magana, 36 votes [applause, shouts]
Mr Hugo Barrera, 17 votes [applause, boos]
Abstentions, 7 [applause]

The interim president of the Republic of El Salvador [shouts] elected [shouts] by this Constituent Assembly is Dr Alvaro Magana. [shouts, applause] Dr [Ricardo] Gonzalez Camacho has the floor now. [shouts]

[Gonzalo Comacho] Thank you, Mr President. I hope my words will bring some peace to the people attending this session and to the deputies present here, following the adoption of this very important decision for the national life. Seeking to interpret the feelings and desires of the 100,576 citizens who voted for democratic action [AD] [applause] and in general, the desire of the people I represent, and after consulting [word indistinct] my party's leaders and my own conscience, I abstained from voting. I have abstained, Mr President, for several reasons; throughout the campaign, we the members of AD strove to achieve what we described as a government of national integration. By national integration we meant a government resulting from consensus, with officials elected by consensus. At this assembly, we have failed to see such a consensus. It was in view of this, Mr President, that we chose to abstain from voting for either of the two candidates proposed.

Something else worries us, Mr President. The above is not the sole reason. We not only wanted a candidate resulting from consensus, but one who had actively participated in the electoral struggle. [applause, shouts] I don't say this to discredit anyone, since not everyone is obliged to participate in struggles. Men of action is what we wanted to see elected here by consensus. [shouts, applause]

However, Mr President, quoting Friar Luis de Leon's famous phrase, as we were saying yesterday, we have always maintained that the democratic game is like this, and that democracy consists of accepting the majority's vote. One cannot win all the time, for then it would not be democracy. Therefore, Mr President, after this election in which a citizen has been chosen by the majority of the deputies present here, we not only will respect that position but, as we said earlier in a public manifesto, we will defend it against any interference. [applause] One must be consistent with one's positions. We must all be consistent with our positions. We should not be red today because it suits us and white tomorrow because it doesn't. [applause, shouts]

Mr President, I know that the political parties have made a huge, a great effort. The very parties to which the deputies who elected Dr Magana belong, have made a great effort and have given up legitimate party aspirations. I sincerely acknowledge the fact that those parties have both value and merit.

Mr President: Before concluding, I must mention, if only in passing, AD's attitude, what AD expects as a results of the decision adopted here. Those of us who know Dr Alvaro Magana know about his qualities and capabilities. As the constitution establishes, we expect him to fulfill his duties. We trust that he will surround himself with capable individuals in order to rule this country. We trust this and this is the least we can do.

There is yet another reason for explaining my vote to this plenum; the country's tragic situation. Some may approve, others may disapprove the decision adopted here today. I have explained my abstention, I have explained why I did not vote for any of the candidates, but at this point, when the country is bleeding both physically and economically, the lack of a legitimate government is ruining us. To mention an example: Another 15 days without adopting this decision and this country would not have had any kind of agricultural harvest. [shouts] This is serious. [shouts] Mr President, I am perfectly aware that you have led the assembly to the adoption of this decision, guided by the best desires for the best future for our fatherland. Thank you, Mr President. [applause]

[Unidentified speaker] Dr Luis Nelson Segovia has the floor.

[Segovia] Mr President, fellow Constituent Assembly members, Salvadoran people: We have come to the end of an election to desginate the interim president of the republic. He will guide our country's destiny from the moment of his inauguration until the political constitution decreed by this Constituent Assembly establishes the new terms for the constitutional president. One month and one day after the election, it was high time that our republic had a head of government, because the power vacuum was already being felt. Through my colleague Gonzalez Camacho, AD has already expressed its view, so that I will be brief in explaining my abstention. I think that votes, whether negative or postiive, are quite forceful. However, I also think, that abstentions have a meaning My abstention could not be a simple one because although an abstention is eloquent in itself, in the face of the circumstances of today's voting, we feel it is essential to establish the meaning of this abstention.

For some time now, since the days of the electoral campaign, it has been said that now that the country is experiencing its most serious crisis, it is essential for the government that emerges, regardless of which government it turns out to be, to seek to integrate a national unity government.

Nonethless, despite the initial efforts, it would seem that party interests have failed to materialize in the person of someone really representative of the aspirations expressed at the polls, the aspirations of the Salvadoran people who on 28 March took to the streets to express through their vote what they wanted. [applause]

Unfortunately, the individual who would have satisfied all Salvadorans, especially the political parties represented here, could not be found. He could not be found, so other candidacies were suggested and someone was elected.

Our abstention does not reflect anything personal against the person elected. He, by the way, was my professor. He is also my friend. Besides, I know about the personal capacity of the person who has just been appointed president of the republic. But, frankly, I also believe it is a matter of principles, or principles involving my conscience, or principles involving my party's guidelines [applause] to abstain from voting for a candidate who did not represent what the Salvadoran people expressed as their will through the vote. [applause, shouts]

But just as we are consistent with our principles, we are also consistent with the principle of authority. We know that both our people and our country urgently needed a government. Even if it is not a national unity government, it is still the national government, the government that will have to lead our country toward pacification and national reconstruction. This is why our party, our AD faction, will not participation in this assembly to hinder the government's action, as long as that government action is carried out on behalf of the Salvadoran people and their majorities. [applause]

In conclusion, Mr President, Constituent Assembly members; although we have abstained, our work here at this point will be constructive. It will be marked by constant criticism, because we represent the people and, as their representative, we will check on the activities of our future rulers. Thank you. [applause]

[Unidentified speaker] [Julio Adolfo] Rey Prendes has requested the floor to explain his vote. You now have the floor.

[Rey Prendes] Mr President, Constituent Assembly deputies. On behalf of the Christian Democratic Party, I would like to explain the vote I gave Dr Magana as follows: Each of us, of course, would have liked the president to come from his party. From the very beginning, we said during the electoral campaign that we would endorse Jose Napoleon Duarte for interim president of the republic. [shouts] The other political parties [shouts continue, whistles] also had preferences of their own [shouts] and it was precisely because no political party had a sufficient majority to decide, that compromises were sought in order to lead the country toward a solution that would place the fatherland on the best road possible to solve our problems. [shouts, boos and hisses] We began seeking the solution a long time ago, right after the election. All the parties began holding talks, seeking the best there could be for this country. We began moving toward the possiblity of establishing a government resulting from consensus. The truth, Mr President, is that many compromises have been made along the road, that many of us have pledged to do one thing or the other. We the Christian Democrats have fulfilled this commitment. Our 24 deputies have voted for Alvaro Magana. [shouts] AD adopted a similarly unified position, as did the Salvadoran Popular Party's deputy.

Dear Constituent Assembly members: I hope that, despite the ups and downs and the occassionally changing commitments which at times have not been solid, we may, from now on, find the path of consensus, find the path where we will all seek the best for the fatherland. This is why we support the motion introduced by the president of the Constituent Assembly [words indistinct] through the election of three vice presidents. Thank you very much. Mr President. [shouts, boos, hisses, applause]

D'AUBUISSON COMMENTS ON MAGANA'S APPOINTMENT

PA291906 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1825 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Statement by Roberto d'Aubuisson, president of the Constituent Assembly, at Constituent Assembly debates in San Salvador -- live]

[Excerpt] I said at the beginning that in order to have political unity, we submitted the motion for three vice presidents, one of them from the majority parties, and also that we clearly define the functions of the vice presidents and the President. However, the main reason for all this, which we have been discussing, is national unity, because by majority in this assembly we have elected the president of the republic. We have all had the opportunity to explain and discuss the appointment of Dr Alvaro Magana, whom we all know, as president of the republic.

GOVERNMENT REIMPOSES STATE OF SIEGE FOR 30 DAYS

PA291444 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0925 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 29 Apr (LATIN) -- The Salvadoran Government has reimposed the state of siege, suspending certain constitutional guarantees for 30 days. It is based on the government's decision on the need to defend the country from the guerrilla attacks. Yesterday's declaration reimposes this exceptional measure, which was in force for 2 years prior to the elections in March, when it was suspended to permit broad participation in the election campaign that culminated in the election of the Constituent Assembly deputies.

However, the government said a month after the elections that it has decided to reimpose the state of siege, which authorizes the authorities to censure private correspondence, to restrict freedom of expression and to ban trips abroad by Salvadoran citizens. Although the decree provides for the enforcement of the state of siege for only 30 days, it can be extended when it expires, according to recent custom.

The special measures, originally imposed for only a month in March 1980, were extended every 30 days until they were suspended 2 years later during the latter part of the campaign for the Constituent Assembly elections.

ARMY OPERATIONS ATTACK GUERRILLA REDOUBTS

PA291910 Paris AFP in Spanish 1056 GMT 29 Apr 82

[By Humberto Arce]

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Apr (AFP) -- In view of next week's impending FMLN guerrilla offensive, the Salvadoran Army has decided to send its troops, in advance, into the northeastern Morazan Department where heavy fighting was still going on today. Sources closely related with the army said here that 16 military companies, approximately 2,500 men, were sent on Saturday to Morazan -- probably the main insurgent redoubt in the country -- to "pursue and destroy the guerrillas."

The infantry troops, with air support, came in contact with FMLN columns on Sunday in the Osicala, Delicias de Concepcion and Meanguera cantons. Hours later the "recovery" of Meanguera was announced. Later, heavy fighting extended to a large area of the same department and in view of the outburst of confusion, the army decided to forbid the presence of foreign reporters in the zone.

Official army reports state that the operation "advances successfully" and that the guerrillas are withdrawing toward the Honduran border. However, some reporters who were able to get to San Franciso Gotera, the departmental capital, on Wednesday said that "the guerrillas are moving in large groups all over the area, the fighting is violent and there are many dead."

The army has hardly mentioned casualties, but according to rebel reports heard over the clandestine Radio Venceremos, spokesman for the FMLN, in one attack 17 soldiers were killed and "their bodies left behind by the troops." A military vehicle loaded with coffins headed toward Morazan, was also seen by the reporters.

While fighting the insurgents in Morazan, the army also decided on Tuesday to send 2,000 soldiers southeast to Usulutan, where they also expect a guerrilla attack in the next few hours. According to reports received from San Salvador, the city of Usulutan remains cordoned off by the army while armored vehicles patrol the outskirts.

More fighting between the army and the guerrilla was reported in Tejutla, Chalatenango Department, and in San Martin and Suchitoto, in the central zone of the country. The objective of these military operations is to surprise the FMLN guerrillas in their own redoubts, but more than that, the army wants to gain time to allow the troops training in counterinsurgency in the United States, to return to the country.

The Slavadoran Army believes that once the 477 officers and 980 soldiers training in the United States have joined the armed struggle, they will be able to break the FMLN military equilibrium in important areas in the interior of the country. Of the 477 officers training at Ft Bragg, North Carolina, 160 have returned to the country and the others will complete training by 10 May.

On the other hand, the 980 infantry soldiers at Ft Benning, Georgia, will finish their training this weekend and return to San Salvador early next week. However, these troops, which will make up a so-called "Ramon Belloso battalion", will go into combat 2 weeks later following a "readaptation" period.

According to military experts, this battalion will use new antiguerrilla tactics, moving in groups of five or six men to avoid the ambushes and group casualties suffered by the army. Meanwhile, the officers will train the other battalions and companies in the tactics learned in the United States, and at the same time they will improve the Salvadoran Army's intelligence, communications and logistics systems.

HONDURAS

REPLY TO NICARAGUAN BILATERAL PEACE PLAN

PA291822 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 27 Apr 82 p 2

[Text] The Honduran Government has rejected the bilateral proposal made by the Nicaraguan Government concerning relations between the two countries. An extensive reply to the seven-point proposal submitted a week ago by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto to improve the two countries' relations rejects five of Nicaragua's points, while modifying one and accepting another.

Honduras insists that a regional viewpoint of the issues must prevail, along the lines of the solution proposed in the OAS last March by Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica. The problems are regional. Therefore, the solutions must also be regional, according to the Honduran viewpoint.

After agreeing that the two countries' proposals are not necessarily mutually exclusive, the Honduran answer lists its opinion of the Nicaraguan proposals on a point-by-point basis. Honduras considers bilateral "nonaggression" pacts unnecessary, because both countries are members of adequate international forums, because the pacts would not guarantee nonaggression, and because a technical problem exists in clearly defining the concept of "aggression."

On this Nicaraguan point, Honduras expresses its desire to "establish a basis for a general regional disarmament that would not only end the arms race but would effectively reduce weapons of war and military personnel in each country.

General disarmament in Central America would be convincing proof that our desires for peace are real and true and not simply words of good intentions," the Honduran document add.

The third point [points one and two not specified] of the Nicaraguan proposals suggests the establishment of "a system of joint patrols along our common borders, in order to prevent the activities of armed individuals who endanger the relations between the two countries." Honduras' reply to this is that the suggestion, though it is "valuable, is not enough."

Honduras proposes that "studies be made to establish appropriate mechanisms for exercising control of compliance with the commitments made by the governments of Central America with international oversight and supervision."

The fourth Nicaraguan point states: "To dismantle the camps of Somozist counterrevolutionary gangs in Honduran territory, and the withdrawal from the border of all types of concentrations of these Somozist individuals." Honduras completely rejects the allegation that there are in the country "concentrations of Somozists" or gangs of such individuals who attack Sandinist army positions from our country.

The fifth Nicaraguan proposal states: "Not to install any foreign naval base anywhere in the Gulf of Fonseca without the express approval of all three countries which have sovereignty in the gulf." The Honduran Government says that there is no intention whatsoever of permitting the establishment of a foreign military base in the Gulf of Fonseca or anywhere else in the country.

The sixth Nicaraguan proposal refers to holding bilateral political, economic, diplomatic, military, cultural, social and sports meeting for the purpose of strengthening relations between the two countries. Honduras insists that these meetings should also be attended by the other Central American countries.

The seventh and last Nicaraguan proposal suggests: "To proceed in organized fashion and with the cooperation of international organizations for the eventual repatriation of those Miskito Indians who voluntarily wish to return to Nicaragua." Honduras in completely in agreement.

STATION SAYS MILITARY LEADER CONSOLIDATES POWER

PA291743 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Station commentary read by Rodrigo Wong Arevalos]

[Excerpts] With the reorganization of army commands, which occurred unexpectedly on Monday, Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez has consolidated power in his own hands, with the firm support of his loyal comrades.

We want to recall certain statements we made on the day that Colonel Alvarez Martinez, a colonel then, was mentioned as Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia's successor to the armed forces command; back then we said that everyone in the Honduran Army was going his own way and that this was not good. Thus, we concluded that it was healthier for the country to have a new leader in the armed forces as soon as possible. We needed a leader with the same charisma that General Lopez Arellano had, because under his leadership the army remained united and the various groups of officers, although there were both slight and profound discrepancies, were always working toward a truly military goal. This was true until General Lopez Arellano came up with the idea of participating in politics.

The hesitations that surfaced in the armed forces following Lopez Arellano's fall can easily be explained, because the power was divided among the 28 members of the military forces superior council. This is not a lie or something that we are making up: When Melgar Castro replaced Lopez Arellano, the differences that existed within a strong group of the famous lieutenant colonels who opposed the personal ideas of the then chief of state General Melgar Castro could not be hidden.

These differences became known to the public; while some of them were trivial, others were definitely unpleasant. The people found out about them through the wives of the young officers.

The country's political outlook has changed substantially since November 1981. Today, the chief of the armed forces has been able to unify the leadership around himself. It is no secret that the new commanders of key battalions are Alvarez Martinez' friends, who have expressed their loyalty to and admiration of him.

What is more, we feel that the new armed forces chief will now begin to exercise command on his own personal terms; for he has unified his command and has the complete support of almost all of his comrades, who are holding positions of leadership in the main units of the Honduran Army. It seems to us that this is good for the country, despite the objections to Alvarez Martinez, such as the accusation by certain organizations that the general is an element of the ultrarightwing. In other words, we feel that it is good that the Honduran Army's military command is consolidated about a single person. This consolidation is beneficial to the development of the constitutional government. Disputes and internal differences within the armed forces always seem to increase other interests, which, in the army, lead to an ambition for political power.

Now, given the reputation that certain groups have created for Gen Alvarez Martinez by claiming that he is an ultrarightist officer, he must dispel these doubts by guaranteeing these groups and organizations that the Honduran Army, which has the people's support, is aware that only by permitting the free play of democratic ideas and ideological pluralism can it continue to enjoy this valuable support. For if the army breaks with the people's organized sectors, the result would be a shattering experience for the country.

We know that General Alvarez Martinez has strong ties with the leaders of the party [5-second break in transmission] to the other sectors, which are aware that the armed forces are now a determining institution in the country's political life.

It seems to us that the important point in analyzing this new reorganization in the primary commands of the armed forces is that for the time being we have overcome the danger of a division within the armed forces and that, as a result, the country's risk of being defenseless in the face of any danger that may threaten our sovereignty has been minimized.

We can say now that General Alvarez Martinez commands the army. However, we just mentioned the first test he must face; he must dispel any doubts about the rumors that he is not too keen on free democratic ideas. If he approaches this task calmly, cautiously and wisely, he will achieve positive results, which will be good not only for him but for the social and political peace that Honduras needs so much. However, we must wait and see what happens.

HIJACKING NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE; AIRPORT SEALED

Suspect Arrested

PA291205 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Attention, Radio America national audience. A suspect in the plane hijacking case has been arrested at Toncontin Airport. Here is a report from Radio San Pedro. [Begin relay] Attention, listeners in the republic. (Victor Manuel Calix Cruz) is the youth who was arrested yesterday afternoon inside the terminal building at Toncontin Airport, after he was found to be acting suspiciously. He was arrested by members of the public security forces' Cobra Squad, who set up guards at the building to prevent the curious from approaching the Dash-7 that was hijacked by a terrorist cell.

The prisoner lied to the authorities when questioned about the reason for his presence at the site, saying that he had entered with the film crew of the "This Very Day" newscast, which was denied by the newscast personnel. Subsequently, the youth, (Calix Cruz), was taken in a patrol car to the National Investigations Directorate Offices. The authorities reported that compromising documents were found in his possession. The entire terminal building and adjacent areas were surrounded by the police.

More on Situation

PA292100 Paris AFP in Spanish 1944 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 29 Apr (AFP) -- Radio communications between the Toncontin Airport control tower and the hijackers of a Honduran commercial aircraft were interrupted this morning when the battery of the four-engine airplane was depleted. This resulted in a climate of uncertainty for the relatives of the 36 hostages who today are still in the aircraft, it has been learned. The relatives of the passengers have remained at the airport in a state in suspense, while the government and police authorities are keeping silent on the negotiations with the guerrilla command which hijacked the aircraft Wednesday morning.

It was learned at noon today, when a plane steward took 41 food rations to the airplane, that the hijackers took advantage of the occasion to send a package with a message for the mediator between the guerrilla command members and the government, Andrea Lanza Cordero, the apostolic nuncio. The package was picked up by a civilian official but nothing was learned of the terms.

Shortly afterward, the Lorenzo Zelaya Peoples Liberation Forces authorized some relatives of the passengers to approach the stairway of the aircraft under heavy guard to talk to their relatives and to confirm that they are in good health. Also, commercial and private flights are being at Toncontin Airport, under stringent security measures. At the beginning, a private aircraft and a U.S. Air Force jet as well as a cargo aircraft and a TAN-SAHSA international passenger flight arrived.

For his part, the apostolic nuncio appeared again at the airport to resume efforts between the hijackers and the government. Meanwhile, leaders of the (ruling) Liberal Party visited President Roberto Suazo Cordova to announce that the "Liberals are rady to surround the aircraft and to take the hijackers out by force," but this proposal was rejected by the president.

Carlos Montoya, vice president of the National Congress, said that "the government is not willing to yield to the intentions of this group of adventures and antisocials who are trying to hinder the democratic process of the country." He added that the guerrillas have decreased their demand for $500,000 to $125,000. "However," he said, "the government is not ready to give them a single cent, because the country is experiencing a very serious economic crisis and we cannot squander the people's monry to stimulate violence and uncertainity," he stressed. "It would be better, the deputy noted, "that they release the hostages as soon as possible and leave for another country."

The Honduran National Congress is studying the approval of an antiterrorist and antihijacking law whose discussion and approval began last night and which might be enforced this very afternoon, according to Montoya.

Airline Companies' News Bullentin

PA292340 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2125 GMT 29 Apr 82

[TAN/SAHSA News Bulletin No 2]

[Text] TAN/SAHSA and ANHSA inform the general public that the passengers being held by hijackers in the Dash-7 airplane at Toncontin Airport are receiving all the courtesies that are humanly possible in the present circumstances from our companies

Furthermore, we also inform our clients that flights scheduled for today are being carried out normally, within the restrictions that have been imposed by the General Civil Aeronautics Directorate. TAN/SAHSA and ANHSA are making every effort that is within their means to meet the requirments of their passengers. We apologize to them for any possible deficiencies that they may observe. Such shortcomings are completely outside the control of our companies and are caused by circumstances beyond our control.

We hope that the negotiations that are underway between our government and the hijackers of the airplane will be completed successfully within the least possible time for the benefit of all, which will result in an immediate normalization of our services.

Negotiations' Progress Seen

PA300542 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Apr 82

[Excerpt] We wish to announce that at 2200 the hijackers of the airplane had begun to soften their attitude toward the hostages. They allowed a member of the crew to come to within a few feet of the newsmen who are covering this hijacking. The crewmember, who could not be identified because of the poor visibility at the airport, came to pick up several parcels in a SAHSA vehicle. He then returned to the airplane, where the hijackers ordered him to circle the airplane several times to see if there was someone else aboard the vehicle carrying the articles they had asked for.

Regarding security measures adopted by the authoritities, we would like to report that the building housing the airport offices is practically sealed off from newsmen and others except the police forces, which are charged with keeping a watch on and eventually seizing the airplane. Reliable sources have confirmed that a final agreement might be reached between 2300 and 2400. It all depends on the reply the government gives to the negotiations between the authorities and the apostolic nuncio, who is reporting on the hijackers took after meeting with him for 45 minutes at around 1900.

Authorities are awaiting the nuncio's return. He will apparently bring back a reply from the hijackers, who discussed and analyzed the government's demands for about an hour.

NICARAGUA

PROTEST SENT HONDURAS OVER 'SOMOZIST' ATTACK

PA272319 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Tonight, the Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry reported to the Honduran foreign minister the new act of aggression preperated by the Somozist counterrevolutionary bands whose camps are located along the border between the two countries. The text of the note is as follows:

His excellency
Edgardo Paz Barnica
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Tegucigalpa, Honduras,

Mr Minister: I am honored to address Your Excellency to report a new act of aggression by counterrevolutionary bands from Honduras territory. Today, at 0815, a group of approximately 65 Somozist counterrevolutionaries attacked the Los Planes customs post, which is located 17.5 km south of Jalapa. The attack was started with mortar fire, which was sustained for 25 minutes and then continued with fire from FAL, M16 and Garand rifles, M79 grenade launchers and FAL grenades. The attack ended at 1045. The counterrevolutionries withdrew into Honduran territory.

As a result of the attack, Sandinist People's Army fighters (Jesus Ortiz Herrera) and (Rafael Aragon Ley) as well as Companeros (Juan Castillo Blanco) and (Silvio Rene Gonzalez), members of reserve battalion 84-27, were killed. In addition, fighters (William Morales Padilla), (Ismael Perez Medina), (Alejandro Lopez Raudales) and (Enrique Chavarria) were wounded. We wish to call Your Excellency's attention to this new criminal action which has been carried out shortly after the fruitful meeting with our foreign minister, Miguel d'Escoto. During this meeting, we expressed concern over the freedom with which the Somozist bands move about, which may damage the good relations which should exist between our two countries and lead them into a confrontation of unforeseeable consequences.

We reiterate to Your Excellency our request that the distinguished Honduran Government take pertinent steps to establish control on and dismantle the Somozist counterrevolutionary camps located in the area of our common borders. In reporting this new act of aggression to Your Excellency, the Nicaraguan Government demands, through me, an investigation of the previously described events. It also asks that the results of same be reported to it opportunely. I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency our highest and most distinguished consideration. (Signed) Victor Hugo Tinoco Fonseca, acting foreign minister.

HONDURAN, NICARAGUAN AMBASSADORS TO RETURN TO POSTS

PA280052 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Companero Guillermo Suarez Rivas left this morning for Honduras to take up his post as ambassador of Nicaragua in that country. An announcement in this regard was made by the information department of the Foreign Ministry. The statement indicated that the return of the Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras is provided for in the agreement reached on 21 April by the foreign ministers of Honduras and Nicaragua. The agreement provides that the two countries will try to improve the relations between them that have been cordial in the past. Similarly, Honduran Ambassador Roberto Perdomo Paredes returned to Nicaragua today in line with that agreement.

JUNTA PRESS OFFICE ANNOUNCES ORTEGA TRIP TO USSR

PA272329 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Communique -- read by Manuel Espinoza Henriquez]

[Text] The Information and Press Directorate of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction announces that: In response to an invitation extended by the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government, a state delegation led by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, member of the FSLN National Directorate and coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, will make an official good will visit to the USSR in the first 2 weeks of May.

Managua, 26 April 1982, year of unity in the face of aggression.

JUNTA ISSUES DECREE ON STATE COUNCIL SESSIONS

PA281645 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Decree issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction on 27 April -- read by announcer]

[Text] Article 1. In accordance with the general statute of the State Council, we are hereby convoking the opening of the third period of regular sessions of the State Council.

Therefore, we are hereby summoning the members appointed by the political, labor, popular, managerial, and social organizations that make up the State Council to a preparatory meeting to distribute credentials. This meeting will be held at the Ernesto Castillo Salaverri auditorium in Managua's Camilo Ortega Saavedra civic center at 1000 on 4 May 1982, national dignity day.

Article 2. The Supreme Court will preside over the preparatory meeting. The State Council board of directors will be elected at this meeting in accordance with decree No 388 of 2 May 1980.

Article 3. We hereby summon the State Council members appointed by the political, labor, popular, managerial and social organizations to the formal session that will be held to open the State Council's third period of regular sessions. This event will be presided over by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and will be held at the Ruben Dario theater at 1800 on Tuesday, 4 May 1982, day of national dignity.

Article 4. As long as the state of national emergency remains in effect, the application of Article 12 of Decree No 388 of 2 May 1980 is suspended. The State Council president is hereby empowered to determine the dates on which the council sessions will be held.

Article 5. This decree becomes effective as soon as it is disseminated by any communications medium without any detriment to its subsequent publication in the official gazette.

Issued in Managua on 27 April 1982, the year of unity in the face of aggression. Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction: [Signed] Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Rafael Cordova Rivas

PASTORA, ROBELO REPORTED MEETING IN SAN JOSE

PA292020 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Treason and reaction have shaken hands in San Jose. Meetings between Pastora and Robelo have been reported by the Costa Rican newspaper LA NACION.

San Jose -- Meetings between reactionary leader Alfonso Robelo and Sandinist deserter Eden Pastora Gomez have been reported by the Costa Rican paper. According to the paper the meetings were held to analyze the possibility of coordinating actions in opposition to the Nicaraguan revolutionary government and the meetings were attended by other rightist politicians like Adan Fletes from the Social Christian Party and Alvaro Jerez, second in command after Robelo in the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN). The paper did not give the dates of the meetings, but did say that they were held in homes in the suburbs of San Jose. The paper added that details and methods of struggle were not defined at the meetings, nor were any agreements reached on the establishment of a government in exile.

LA NACION did not discard the possibility that other rightist leaders may soon arrive in San Jose, which has apparently become a new sanctuary for reactionary personalities whose activities are beginning to enter the field of counterrevolution. The paper reported a Costa Rican Public Security Ministry source as saying that the police were aware of the arrival of rightist politicians in San Jose, but had so far confined themselves to verifying places, times and vehicles used during the meetings.

Robelo Denial

PA290303 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1516 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] San Jose, 28 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Alfonso Robelo, former member of the Nicaraguan Government Junta and leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, has emphatically denied that he fled from his country to seek asylum in Costa Rica.

In a brief exclusive statement to ACAN-EFE, Robelo said today that he entered this country as a tourist and that his activity in this capital is that which he normally carries out when he comes here. Robelo has business interests in Costa Rica. He owns shares in certain agricultural firms.

Certain media had speculated about the fact Robelo is here at the same time as Eden Pastora, particularly after "Commander Cero" attacked the present policy of Sandinist leaders here. The Costa Rican Public Security Ministry today disclosed that it is keeping a permanent watch on Pastora and his group, as well as on Robelo and the people who are accompanying him, but no reports have been given regarding their activities.

CANADA GRANTS CREDIT LINE, TECHNICAL COOPERATION

PA291935 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 24 Apr 82 p 11

[Text] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Government Junta of National Reconstruction, and Edmundo Jarquin, minister of the International Reconstruction Fund (FIR), together with members of the Canadian Agency for International Development (ACDI), have announced the agreements signed between the Canadian and Nicaraguan Governments.

As a first step, Canada will grant a $180 million credit line to Nicaragua under very favorable conditions, for such priority projects of the government junta as the purchase of materials and equipment required for the dairy project in Chiltepe Peninsula, and the dairy plans in Muy Muy and Matiguas, which are carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture Development and Agrarian Reform (MIDINRA).

Edmundo Jarquin pointed out that although the credit line will be handled by MIDINRA, it will benefit several hundreds of small and medium-sized producers in the regions where the dairy project will be implemented. Jarquin also said that in addition to the credit line, an agreement on technical cooperation from the Canadian Government was signed, especially in fields handled by the Nicaraguan Energy Institute (INAA). Furthermore, other government projects have been pinpointed which could receive sponsorship or technical assistance from Canadian nongovernment organizations.

During this brief meeting, Sergio Ramirez Mercado said: "We hope that after this visit you will have a clearer image of our country, our advancements, and the many difficulties that we are going to face."

The Canadian delegation was led by Pierre Bumans, Marcel Masse as president, Katy Anderson, M. Anthony Malone, and Bruno Hubert, the director of the regional program for Central America. They were accompanied by Douglas Sirrs, the Canadian ambassador in Costa Rica.

VISITING MEXICANS RATIFY CULTURAL AGREEMENT

PA292357 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] A high-level Mexican delegation headed by (Rafael Tovar y Deperesa), director of cultural affairs at the Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations, arrived this morning at the Augusto C. Sandino International Airport. The Mexican officials were met by (Francisco Guzman), deputy education minister, Augusto Gomez Villanueva, the Mexican ambassador to Nicaragua, Culture Ministry officials, and Ivan Garcia, director of the Sandinist television system.

[Begin recording -- presumably (Tovar)] On this occasion, in addition to strengthening our bonds of friendship and solidarity with Nicaragua, we have come to formalize several educational and cultural matters and to implement the cultural exchange agreement signed last year by Nicaraguan Education Minister [Carolos] Tunnerman and Mexican Secretary of Public Education Fernando Solana. This agreement lists everything that will be done in the fields of culture and education in the next 2 years. [words indistinct] [end recording]

Among the visitors is Dr (Luis Cueto Garcia), who will advise the Sandinist television system regarding programming, technical assistance and human resources. The fraternal Mexican delegation, which will be in Nicaragua 2 days, this morning ratified the Nicaraguan-Mexican cultural exchange agreement at the Foreign Ministry. The ratification document was signed by Nicaraguan Culture Minister Father Ernesto Cardenal and by (Rafael Tovar y Deperesa), director of cultural affairs at the Mexican Foreign Secretariat.

The members of the Mexican delegation will meet tomorrow with Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, who is coordinator of the government junta.

Mexican Grains Program

PA292232 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 24 Apr 82 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] Nicaragua and Mexico have launched a giant program of agricultural food enterprises which is aimed at converting our country into the granary of Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean. A Mexican delegation, belonging to the directorate of enterprises devoted to the production of grains held its first meeting with Nicaraguan leaders during which a plan was agreed upon for the production of staples on an area of 4,390 manzanas, during the present agricultural season.

Pedro Antonio Blandon, deputy minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform and director of the National Food Program, held a news conference yesterday together with Mexican officials Luis Fernandez, Jorge Montufar, Jorge Cabrera, and Jorge Lopez Rios to announce the future crops and other aspects of this ambitious program, which includes sowing more than 11,000 manzanas in basic grains for late 1983.

The news conference was also attended by Augusto Gomez Villanueva, the Mexican ambassador to Nicaragua, and Mauricio Cuadra and Fernando Montes of the Nicaraguan grains enterprise, as well as Jorge Luis Acosta, Mexico's permanent adviser in Nicaragua on these projects.

Blandon said that the joint investment plan between Mexico and Nicaragua is primarily aimed at producing staples to meet our local needs and, in the medium term, to export any surplus. He noted that the initial production plan of 4,390 manzanas includes the sowing of 3,000 manzanas of rice and the rest will be used to plant beans and corn.

During the meeting between the Mexican and Nicaraguan leaders an agreement was also reached on the purchase of tractors and other equipment to mechanize the production.

Blandon added that the agricultural enterprise was founded with a capital of 100 million cordobas, that is $10 million, and that the first harvest of the program will have an estimated production of 200,000 quintals of rice, 100,000 quintals of corn and 15,000 quintals of beans. He stressed that these figures will be in addition to local production.

He said that as the program progresses, the crops will be increased, thus estimating that more than 11,000 manzanas will be sown by the end of 1983 "which means that we will be developing the largest rice production area in a single region in Central America."

Nicaragua and Mexico signed the agreement for this project on 18 February 1981 and the first results of it will be seen in the next grain harvest.

COLOMBIA

COLOMBIAN-ECUADOREAN BODY VIEWING BORDER PROBLEMS

PA290334 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Ipiales -- The governments of Colombia and Ecuador began negotiations here this week to overcome a number of problems along their borders, and have approved a work plan designed to find definite policies. At the end of a meeting between the minister of economic development, Gabriel Melo Guevara, of Colombia, and of industries, commerce and integration, Orlando Alcibar Santos, of Ecuador, an extensive analysis was made of the growing contraband in the area, mainly gasoline into Colombia; the traffic problem of public service vehicles; the transit of nationals and measures of commercial integration.

Ministers Melo Guevara and Alcibar Santos met yesterday at the Rumichaca bridge for over 4 hours, accompanied by other officials, including the customs directors of both countries, the Narino governor and his Ecuadorean colleague, the governor of Carchi Province.

Besides agreeing to take immediate action against the illegal traffic in merchandise, the ministers agreed to approve construction of a binational transportation terminal, which would solve the traffice problem and help clarify some of the aspects of decision 56 of the Cartagena accord. After the meeting, the two ministers set the agenda of the talks slated to begin today by the joint Colombian-Ecuadorean commission at Ipiales.

SURINAME

BOUTERSE DENIES COUP ATTEMPT 'LAST WEEK'

FL291920 Bridgetown CANA in English 1812 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Paramaribo, Suriname, 29 Apr (CANA) -- Suriname's army commander Lt-Col Daysi Bouterse, has denied here that some members of the Marine Wing tried to stage an uprising last week. The military leader said that the incident was merely a question of indiscipline, not an attempt against the government.

Lt-Col Bouterse also disclosed that he is soon to leave for Grenada on holiday.

Scotching rumours of the attempted uprising by members of the Marine Wing of the army last week, Lt-Col Bouterse explained that a group of voung soldiers had been given certain instructions, but instead of carrying them out in accordance with regulations, they did so in a disorderly manner. As a result, they had to be disciplined. It was the kind of behaviour that occured from time to time in an army, he said.

About his holiday, Lt-Col Bouterse disclosed he will be going to the spice island during May for two weeks..." "I have many friends there." Lt-Col Bouterse visited Grenada last year at the head of a two-man delegation to a meeting of the Socialist International (SI). The holiday trip will be only the second time he is leaving the country since assuming the position of head of the armed forces in 1980.

VENEZUELA

PORT WORKERS ANNOUNCE BOYCOTT OF BRITISH VESSELS

PA300022 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1530 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Caracas, 29 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Workers at Venezuelan ports have initiated a boycott against British merchant vessels in solidarity with Argentina on the dispute over the Malvinas, according to a spokesman of the union representing them. Three vessels docked in different parts of the country yesterday were affected by the measure. So far there are no indications, however, that British commercial flights will be the target of (?similar) actions.